Save Foggy Bottom...It's Where We Live! Published by the Foggy Bottom Association

FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

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FBA Sets More Spring Tours: State Dept., KenCen, St. Mary's

The FBA will be sponsoring several tours this spring, including at the State Department, the Kennedy Center and another tour of St. Mary's Church, which proved popular in February.

The FBA has arranged a tour of the State Department's Diplomatic Reception Rooms for members of the Foggy Bottom and West End community on Wednesday, May 3, at 2:45 p.m.

According to the FBA's Jackie Lemire, the diplomatic rooms are among the most beautiful in the world used for official entertaining. The 19th century-style rooms contain a collection of museum-caliber American furnishings from the 1750-1825 period.

"In this setting the Secretary of State, the Vice President, and nembers of the Cabinet entertain the leaders of the world as well as foreign and American dignitaries at luncheons, receptions, and dinners," she said.

The FBA is also attempting to set up a tour of the Kennedy Center's backstage areas, targeting the week of April 10. Stay tuned for further information on this tour in the *FBN* and online at *www.savefoggybottom.com.*

St. Mary's II

Following the success of the Feb. 11 tour – though hopefully with better weather – the FBA will again sponsor a tour of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, at 728 23rd Street NW, on Sat., April 1 at 10:30 a.m. Interested persons should meet in the church's hall. The church's historian, Bradford Tatum, will lead the tour.

St. Mary's was designed by James Renwick and was completed in 1887. Come out to learn of its fascinating history and to see its beautiful stained glass windows executed at Chartres, France, its carved oak furniture, handsome bronze sanctuary rail and other historic features.

– FBN

Note: March 31 notification required for State Dept. tour. *Those wishing to attend the State Dept. tour must forward their name, Social Security number, phone number, driver's license or passport number and e-mail address (if applicable) to Jackie Lemire, 2555 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Apt. 509, Washington, DC 20037, or via e-mail to jglemire@aol.com, on or before Friday, March 31. Space is limited and reservations will be honored in the order they are received.*

In Brief

Farmers' Market Approved

The FBA's executive board voted at its monthly meeting March 6 to support the return of the weekly farmers' market operated by Freshfarm Markets to the site it occupied last year, on Eye Street between 24th Street and New Hampshire Ave. near the Foggy Bottom metro station, as well as space on the sidewalk on 24th Street, N.W. in front of the pedestrian mall.

The farmers' market was very well received by the neighborhood in 2005 and enhanced the quality of life in Foggy Bottom. We welcome its return!

Board Backs ANC on 20th St. Hotel

The FBA board also voted to back the ANC's Feb. 15 resolution opposing the conversion of a parking garage on 20th St. between E and F Streets. As did the ANC, the board noted residential and parking concerns in its unanimous vote.

The ANC resolution called for pushing back a scheduled hearing and allowed for the possibility of revisiting the plan if residential concerns were addressed *(see FBN, 3-1).*

Go Colonials!

Any friction, real or perceived, between the FBA and GWU can hopefully take a back seat this weekend as the school's men's basketball team enters the annual NCAA tournament. The Colonials finished their regular season with the best record in school history at 26-1, an outstanding accomplishment, and are sure to get a high seed.

Of course, with Georgetown, George Mason and Maryland vying for regional bragging rights, it's hard to definitively say they are the best team in the region; that will be determined during the tournament.

But in the meantime, let's wish the best basketball team in Foggy Bottom well in the tourney. Go Colonials! *– FBN*

Headcount a Contentious Issue in GWU's Campus Plan

FBA Claims Violation of 20K-Cap in Current Plan

The FBA sent a letter late last month to D.C. Zoning Administrator Bill Crews stating that GWU is in violation of its campus plan because it has enrolled more than 20,000 students.

The Feb. 22 letter, written by FBA attorney William Bode, notes that the D.C. Court of Appeals has ruled that "a condition of approval of the campus plan... imposes limitations on student enrollment and the employment of faculty and staff. During the ten-year life of the plan, total student enrollment, both full and part-time may not exceed 20,000 at any one time."

The issue is likely to be a contentious one as the university ramps up its plans for campus redevelopment through the use of planned unit developments, or PUDs, throughout much of its Foggy Bottom campus in a new, 20-year campus plan it wants to begin in 2010 *(see FBN, 2-15).* The current campus plan expires at the end of 2009.

Changing the rules

FBA President Joy Howell said "We believe that GW is hoping to distract us from the fact they are flouting the law of the current campus plan by floating a new plan. It's like changing the rules in the sixth inning just because you're losing."

The simplicity of this definition "a student headcount" was intended to eliminate confusion or dissent, Bode wrote. There is no doubt that the requirements and implications were "appreciated by GWU from the get-go," the letter said.

In documents it sent to the city's Office of Planning in connection with its announced intention to file the new campus plan, GWU included a document that "clearly reveals that the on-campus enrollment for Fall 2004 was 20,335," the letter said. "Thus, the enrolled headcount... exceeded the limitations of Condition 8 by 335 students," the letter stated.

The issue is important to the community because of the university's expansion over the years. The FBA wants GWU held to the legal limit of 20,000 students.

The letter, released publicly at the FBA's meeting in late February, also shows that GW's own data showed that its fall 2005 enrollment was 20,318 students, as posted on its Web site *(www.gwu.edu/~irelon_campus_e05.htm).*

GWU is also subtracting students from enrollment counts who are studying abroad – while not counting students from abroad who are studying on campus, the letter said. It subtracted 279 students from that category, even though such students typically study abroad for only one semester in the spring. "We believe that more than 1,000 foreign students take classes on the GWU campus," Bode wrote.

'So What!'

It also subtracts 354 students "enrolled for administrative purposes," even though they may live on campus. "The exclusion of this category is simply indefensible," the letter stated. And it noted that GWU subtracts 919 enrolled students from the campus total from its Mt. Vernon campus residents and commuters, with the justification that they are counted in a separate GW Mt. Vernon college campus plan.

"The response to that statement is: So What!" the letter said. It noted that those students are bussed in daily from Mt. Vernon to Foggy Bottom and "contribute, even more than students housed on campus, to the traffic, parking, and environmental degradation that afflicts the Foggy Bottom area and which the Campus Plan is supposed to curtail."

"Indeed, the exclusion of these students would make the enrollment cap a farce. If these students were properly excluded, GWU could theoretically house 25,000 students at Mt. Vernon, 25,000 students at a new housing area in Crystal City, and bus them all to classes with impunity. The subtractions set forth in this category can not be justified by reason or precedent." *– FBN*

ANC Meeting Set for Tonight

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A will meet tonight, March 15, at its usual time and place: 7 p.m. at the State Plaza Hotel, 2116 F Street, NW. The meeting's agenda will include resolutions to support the 2006 Foggy Bottom Farmer's Market and one regarding the D.C. Fairness in Representation Act and Equitable Funding for D.C.

The ANC will also receive an update from green spaces on improvements resulting from the International Monetary Fund's planned unit development amenity.

Planned resolutions include:

- The non-compliance of GWU with the enrollment provisions of its Campus Plan *(see related story, this issue);*
- A public space application for the IMF's daycare facility, at 700 19th Street, NW;
- An ABC application for an entertainment endorsement at Marcel's restaurant, at 2401 Pennsylvania Ave., NW; and
- A Board of Zoning Adjustment application for a special exceptions to permit a hotel at 515 20th Street, NW *(see FBN, 3-1).*

The meeting is open the public and all residents are welcome.

– FBN

THE FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

c/o West End Library

24th & L Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20037

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The Foggy Bottom News is published by the Foggy Bottom Association as a service to its members and provides information on FBA and neighborhood news, programs, activities and other events of interest to FBA members. Contributions and story ideas are welcome, but the FBN reserves the right to edit or hold pieces as space requires.

The Foggy Bottom Association was formed by a group of citizens in 1955 and was formally incorporated in 1959. Attendance at FBA meetings is open to all residents of Foggy Bottom and the West End.

FBA Officers:

PRESIDENT – Joy Howell • VICE PRESIDENT – Barbara Spillinger
SECRETARY – Jill Nevius • TREASURER – Russell Conlan
MEMBERSHIP – Edward B. Gable Jr.

FBA Board of Directors:

Ellie Becker, Joseph G. Chaplick, Elizabeth B. Elliott, Jacqueline G. Lemire, Michael G. Malloy, James R. O'Leary, Ronald Cocome (Immediate Past President; *Ex Officio*)

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Use that FBA Membership Card!

Foggy Bottom Association members receive a variety of discounts from local area merchants simply by showing our membership card! Here's a list – and stay tuned for our "Preferred Merchants Program," coming in 2006! The membership card also allows FBA members use of GWU's Gelman Library.

FBA MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Chateau Florist
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 293-9005
10% off any arrangement of at least $25

Danny Diaz, Ltd. (Men's Clothing)
522 23rd St., NW
Tel: 296-2767
20% off merchandise; 10% off men's and women's alterations

Elenco Salon
504 23rd St., NW
Tel: 293-3006
$5 discount on any hair service

Expressions (Fine Clothing)
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 775-9299
15% discount

Grillfish Restaurant
1200 New Hampshire Ave., NW
Tel: 331-7310 • Fax: 331-3751
10% off food purchases
(does not apply to alcohol)

Marshall's Bar & Grille
2524 L St., NW
Tel: 333-1155 • Fax: 333-4664
10% off; does not apply to any other discounts

Metropolitan Optical
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 659-6555 • Fax: 659-2134
15% off any eyewear purchase; not applicable with other offers or on contact lenses

New Hampshire Valet
600 New Hampshire Ave., NW
Tel: 342-5700
10% off dry cleaning, laundry, shoe repair

One Fish Two Fish
2423 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 822-0977
10% off total meal bill for dine-in and carry-out only; not available on delivery orders

Primi Piatti
2013 Eye St., NW
Tel: 223-3600 • Fax: 296-3725
10% off check

ProEuro Hair Design
2100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 887-9191
10% off haircut and style; 20% off color highlights or perm

600 Restaurant at the Watergate
600 New Hampshire Ave., NW
Tel: 337-5890 • Fax: 337-5895
10% discount after 8:00 p.m.
(does not apply to bar service or alcohol)

Shohreh Day Spa
1712 Eye St., NW, Ste. 914
Tel: 452-9300
20% off services on first visit; 10% on subsequent visits.

Sizzling Express Columbia Plaza
538 23rd St., NW
Tel: 659-1234 • Fax: 659-2800
10% off hot foods, salads, sandwiches and fountain sodas
(does not apply to sushi)

Thai Coast Restaurant
2514 L St., NW
Tel: 333-2460 • Fax: 333-2462
10% discount on food in restaurant (does not apply to alcohol)

Watch & Band Clinic
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 785-4552 • Fax: 785-4552
15% off leather watch bands

Watergate Gallery & Frame Design
2552 Virginia Ave., NW
(Watergate Mall)
Tel: 338-4488 • Fax: 338-4451
10% off custom framing

Watergate Photo & Copy
2560 Virginia Ave., NW
Tel: 333-7700 • Fax: 333-3083
10% discount

Watergate Valet
2546 Virginia Ave., NW
(Watergate Mall)
Tel: 337-7570
10% discount on dry cleaning and laundry

Watergate Wine and Beverage
2544 Virginia Ave., NW
(Watergate Mall)
Tel: 333-0636 • Fax: 965-2416
Wine: 10% off per case • Liquor or Water: 5% off per case

Williams The Tailor
825 21st St., NW
Tel: 822-8000
10% off general alteration and repair

The Wine Specialist
2115 M St., NW
Tel: 833-0707 • Fax: 833-9507
10% off on all non-sale items (includes single bottle / cases of wine, liquor, beer, water, soda, etc.); not valid with other sales and promotions

SAVE THE DATES!

2006 FBA General Membership Meetings:

March 27
April 24
May 22

June 26 – Annual meeting
Speakers TBA

All meetings at Melrose Hotel, 2430 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, at 7:30 pm.